

bacteriologically - the presence of the bacillus demonstrated by
 To such examination is the only means whereby a certain diagnosis can
 The Members of the Leiston-cum-Sizewell Urban District Council.
 be made.

Three other notifications were of Erysipelas. The influences
 which favour the diffusion of the poison of erysipelas are unknown.
 Gentlemen,

With the improved sanitation of recent years the number of cases
 I have the honour, as your Medical Officer of Health, of
 has much diminished though it is a wide spread affection endemic in
 presenting my report on the general health and sanitary conditions
 most communities.
 of the District for the year 1909, in accordance with the
 The remaining four cases were due to Scarlet Fever. Two of
 instructions received from the Local Government Board.
 these occurred in one house in January, and the other two in one

house in November: in neither case could the cause of infection
 be traced.
PUBLIC HEALTH: The general health of the District has been excellent.

The death rate is low. There has been no sustained outbreak of
 There are no means of isolating cases of infectious diseases.
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 and with a disease like Scarlet Fever it is impossible, under the
 necessary the closure of the whole or part of the Schools. The
 conditions existing in the district, to prevent the spread of
 continuous wet weather experienced has no doubt been conducive to
 infection from one child in a family to another.
 the low death rate.

No Case of Psittacul Fever was notified.

The Birth rate, though still too low, is 2 per 1000 higher than
 last year. The death rate is 8.06, or if the deaths of 3 residents of

the district, which occurred outside the district, i.e. in Ipswich
 hospital, be subtracted the rate would be 8.4 - this is a very
INFECTIOUS DISEASE: Eleven notifications were received under the
 Infectious Diseases Notification Act as compared with three for the
 satisfactory rate. For 1908 it was 10.8; England & Wales 1908,
 year 1908. Four of these were diphtheria cases, with one death.
 14-7 the lowest on record; East Suffolk 18-67; Somerset 19-78;
 The death occurred in a case notified as Membranous Croup, which is
 Aldboro 14-4.

CAUSES bacillus, and is included under the heading of diphtheria in the
 form issued by the Local Government Board for the tabulation of cases
 of infectious disease. There was no connection to be traced
 between any these cases. The use of the antidiphtheria Serum
 has very much reduced the mortality from this disease. Your Council
 authorised me to supply the Serum to be used as a prophylactic, and
 also to have swabbings from the throats of doubtful cases examined.
 of the disease is compulsory, and in still more optional.

To

The Members of the London Sanitary District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour, as your Medical Officer of Health, to present my report on the general health and sanitary conditions of the District for the year 1908, in accordance with the instructions received from the Local Government Board.

PUBLIC HEALTH: The general health of the District has been excellent.

The death rate is low. There has been no sustained outbreak of infectious disease, and no epidemic of children's diseases rendering necessary the closure of the whole or part of the schools. The continuous wet weather experienced has no doubt been conducive to the low death rate.

The birth rate, though still low, is 2 per 1000 higher than

last year.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE: Eleven notifications were received under the

Infectious Diseases Notification Act as compared with three for the year 1908. Four of these were diphtheria cases, with one death.

The death occurred in a case notified as Membranous Group, which is generally considered to be due to the presence of the true diphtheria bacillus, and is included under the heading of diphtheria in the

form issued by the Local Government Board for the tabulation of cases of infectious disease. There was no connection to be traced

between any of these cases. The use of the antidiphtheria serum

has very much reduced the mortality from this disease. Your Council authorised me to supply the serum to be used as a prophylactic, and also to have swabs from the throats of doubtful cases examined.

bacteriologically - the presence of the bacillus demonstrated by such examination is the only means whereby a certain diagnosis can be made.

Three other notifications were of Erysipelas. The influences which favour the diffusion of the poison of erysipelas are unknown. With the improved sanitation of recent years the number of cases has much diminished though it is a wide spread affection endemic in most communities.

The remaining four cases were due to Scarlet Fever. Two of these occurred in one house in January, and the other two in one house in November: in neither case could the cause of infection be traced.

There are no means of isolating cases of infectious diseases, and with a disease like Scarlet Fever it is impossible, under the conditions existing in the district, to prevent the spread of infection from one child in a family to another.

No Case of Puerperal Fever was notified.

MORTALITY: The death rate is 9.06, or if the deaths of 3 residents of the district, which occurred outside the district, i.e. in Ipswich Hospital, be subtracted the rate would be 8.4 - this is a very satisfactory rate. For 1908 it was 10.3; England & Wales 1908, 14.7 the lowest on record; East Suffolk 13.67; Saxmundham 19.76; Aldeboro 14.4.

CAUSES OF DEATH: Pulmonary Tuberculosis 4. Cancer 5. Old Age 6. Infants under one year 7.

The chief points of interest as regards the causes of death are:-

(1). Consumption (4): This is an improvement on previous years.

For 1908 the death rate for England & Wales was the lowest on record, and there is no doubt but that in the near future it will be still considerably further reduced. In many districts the notification of the disease is compulsory, and in still more optional. In the

pasteurization - the presence of the bacilli demonstrated by such examination is the only means whereby a certain diagnosis can be made.

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The remaining four cases were due to Scarlet Fever. Two of these occurred in one house in January, and the other two in one house in November; in neither case could the cause of infection be traced.

There are no means of isolating cases of infectious diseases, and with a disease like Scarlet Fever it is impossible, under the conditions existing in the district, to prevent the spread of infection from one child in a family to another. No Case of Protoplasmic Fever was notified.

MORTALITY:

The death rate is 8.68, or if the deaths of 3 residents of the district, which occurred outside the district, 1.0, in Ipswich hospital, be subtracted the rate would be 8.4 - this is a very satisfactory rate. For 1908 it was 10.8; England & Wales 1908, 14.7 the lowest on record; East Suffolk 13.67; Southampton 19.76; Aldboro 14.4.

CAUSES OF DEATH:

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The chief points of interest as regards the causes of death are: (1). Consumption (4); This is an improvement on previous years. For 1908 the death rate for England & Wales was the lowest on record and there is no doubt but that in the near future it will be still considerably further reduced. In many districts the notification of the disease is compulsory, and in still more optional. In the

big cities much is being done by treating the patients in institutions, and by visits of inspection, and advice at the patients own homes.

The danger from Milk cannot be too much emphasised. All Milch Cows should be inspected by properly qualified men, and tested for tuberculosis, and all infected animals destroyed. Cowsheds require to be large, and thoroughly well ventilated and drained. Our own district has several which have mud floors, and no adequate drainage.

(2). Cancer (4): Five deaths from cancer, being an increase of one over 1908. Deaths from this disease are on the increase in this country, having risen from 0.55 per 1000 of the population for the period 1881-85 to 0.92 for 1908 - the highest recorded rate.

Switzerland and the Netherlands are the only two European Countries with a higher death rate from this disease than England & Wales.

(3). Infants under one year (7): An increase of one over last year - the rate being 65.4 per 1000 births registered, lower than usual, but still too high. One death was ascribed to Enteritis, one to premature birth, two weakly from birth and one malnutrition from birth. For England & Wales the rate was 22 per 1000, lower than the average for the period 1898 - 1907.

(4). Six deaths ascribed to Old Age, None in illegitimate infants.

BIRTHS: 107 births registered, 49 males & 58 females. 88 in 1908 and 86 in 1907. Birth rate 22.01 per 1000; East Suffolk 1908, 23.84, England & Wales 26.5: the general birth rate still continues to decline - in 1876 it reached the highest recorded, viz:- 36.3.

POPULATION: At the 1901 census 3251. At the end of 1908, 4686. End of 1909 5027. There being a net gain of 63 by births over deaths, and 278 new comers over removals.

There is too much overcrowding in the District, and in many cases much too much. Many houses having two families in them where

big cities much as being done by treating the patients in institutions, and by visits of inspection, and advice at the patients own homes.

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Countries with a higher death rate from this disease than England & Wales.

(3). Infants under one year (7): An increase of one over last year - the rate being 65.4 per 1000 births registered, lower than usual, but still too high. One death was ascribed to Enteritis, one to premature birth, two weekly from birth and one malnutrition from birth. For England & Wales the rate was 38 per 1000, lower than the average for the period 1898 - 1907.

(4). Six deaths ascribed to Old Age, None in illegitimate infants.

BIRTHS: 107 births registered, 49 males & 58 females. 88 in 1908 and 86 in 1907. Birth rate 28.01 per 1000; East Suffolk 1908, 28.8 England & Wales 28.5; the general birth rate still continues to decline - in 1878 it reached the highest recorded, viz:- 38.3.

POPULATION: At the 1901 census 2321. At the end of 1908, 4886. End of 1908 5037. There being a net gain of 68 by births over deaths, and 278 new comers over removals.

There is too much overcrowding in the District, and in many cases much too much. Many houses having two families in them where

there is no more than enough room for one. Young married couples have to go into lodgings for want of houses, and other couples cannot get married for want of lodgings. However new building land is being opened up, which may perhaps in time prove more equal to the demand.

During the year 27 new houses have been built, and occupied. 15 are being built, and 4 have been pulled down. We require about 200 new ones immediately.

PHYSICAL FEATURES & GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE DISTRICT:

The district is flat, near the sea there is much common land of a sandy nature with gravel subsoil. More inland the soil is a good loam with, in parts, a clay subsoil. The general conditions of the population are good. The chief occupations are the manufacturing of Machinery at Messrs Richard Garrett & Sons Ltd, Ironworks, and Agriculture. Employment has been constant and wages good. The Sick Benefit Societies throughout the Kingdom complain of the increased sums which have to be spent on sick pay, due no doubt to increasing competition necessitating harder work all round.

HOUSE ACCOMMODATION: what there is of it, is satisfactory. There is generally plenty of open spaces, and the type of house is good. The surroundings are clean. There is no supervision over the erection of new houses, which I think, is a pity. As regards the houses of the Working Classes Act, no action has been taken nor is, I think, needed as regards part I & II, but part III, which empowers local authorities to acquire land, either by agreement or compulsorily, and to erect thereon fit and furnish buildings suitable for lodgings houses for the working classes, might well receive the consideration of the Council.

WATER SUPPLY: The water is supplied to the Council by Messrs Richard Garrett & Sons Ltd from a well situated on their Works. The supply is sufficient and the quality good. The only drawback

there is no more than enough room for one. Young married couples have to go into lodgings for want of houses, and other couples cannot get married for want of lodgings. However new building land is being opened up, which may perhaps in time prove more equal to the demand.

During the year 87 new houses have been built, and occupied. 15 are being built, and 4 have been pulled down. We require about 300 new ones immediately.

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WATER SUPPLY:

The water is supplied to the Council by Messrs Richard Garrett & Sons Ltd from a well situated on their works. The supply is sufficient and the quality good. The only drawback

being its excessive hardness.

MILK SUPPLY:

Nearly the whole supply is drawn from the surrounding district, and is, I think, pure and wholesome. The dairies and cowsheds, and the one milkshop have been regularly inspected, and found in good condition, though as I mentioned before there are some Cowsheds which would be improved by cement floors, properly drained. The general condition have improved in the last few years. No Action is taken generally with a view to preventing the supply of tuberculous milk though in two instances within the district the cows are tested by inoculation. No Action has been found necessary under the sale of Foods & Drugs Act nor under Sect. 117 of the Public Health Act. No carcasses or parts thereof have been condemned for tuberculosis. For the proper administration of these Acts I think specially appointed inspectors are necessary.

SEWERAGE & DRAINAGE:

The drainage of the Town is in a satisfactory condition. Fifteen Water Closets have been fitted in older houses during the year. By the adoption of Sections 39 - 42 of the Public Health Act Amendment Act 1907 by the Council the compulsory provision of water closets when necessary can now be enforced. The Septic tank system with irrigation is the system employed for the disposal of sewage. The irrigation area still gives trouble occasionally.

EXCREMENT DISPOSAL:

The Pail system is generally employed in the absence of water closets; the pails being emptied by a contractor for the Council. The system would be excellent if a sufficiency of dry earth could be provided, as it is a greater extension of the water closet is desirable.

REMOVAL & DISPOSAL OF HOUSE REFUSE:

Carried out by a Contractor for the Council. The removal is effected generally in a special covered cart the property of the Council, buckets or other receptacles being used to contain the refuse. This system work very well, as it

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Carried out by a Contractor for the Council. The removal is effected generally in special covered carts the property of the Council, buckets or other receptacles being used to contain the refuse. This system works very well, as it

does away with the heaps of decaying refuse, which used to be the first object to strike one in most backyards.

NUISANCES: No proceedings have had to be taken with respect to nuisances. The principal ones coming under notice being in respect of old pit closets, which have been converted into pail closets.

No action has been taken with respect to houses let in lodgings or offensive trades, no necessity for such action having arisen.

SCHOOLS: The Public Elementary Schools have been the subject of discussion by the Council during the year in consequence of any report on the overcrowding and lack of ventilation which exist. I cannot too strongly urge on the Council the necessity for the provision of entirely new buildings on a different site for at least the majority of the children: the latest addition, viz: the Infants school, is the only part of the building at all useful. No amount of alteration and adapting can make the rest of the School anything but absolutely unsuitable for the purpose, in my opinion. The present conditions are bad for teachers and children. Representatives of the East Suffolk County Council met those of the School Managers in November last and discussed the question, but I have not been able to gather that the difficulty is any nearer solution.

The arrangements for the Medical Inspection of the Children are carried out by Dr. Stewart, the School Medical Officer, appointed by the East Suffolk County Council.

THE HIGHER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL: which commenced its work with the Winter Session, fills a want long felt in the District as is shown by the number of scholars attending, viz: Boys & Girls 81, 18 Preparatory, 15 first-year Pupil teachers, & 14 second-year Pupil Teachers, total 126.

The Buildings and everything in connection with the School seem to be first class, and I hope we may soon see a like provision

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the first object of view, and the last building.

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made for the elementary scholars.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE: the infectious diseases Notification Act is in force in the district. Disinfection is carried out by the Council's Officers at the expense of the Council, the method used being the generation of Formalin Vapour.

(A) It is a matter for regret that there is no Isolation Hospital Accommodation within the district or available outside.

METHODS OF CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS: The only system of notification in force is in respect of cases coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer under the Poor Law. For the education of known cases the Council has issued leaflets setting forth the precautions necessary for safety. In case of death the rooms are disinfected by the Council. There is no accommodation in infirmaries or elsewhere for advanced or earlier cases of the disease.

(B) SLAUGHTER HOUSES: There are 5 Slaughter Houses in the district, they have been regularly inspected and found in a satisfactory condition.

(C) The Administration of the Midwives Act is provided for by the appointment by the County Council of a lady inspector. The only midwife in the district holds office by virtue of a certificate which expires with the year 1910.

I do not think midwives at all necessary in this district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

Herbert H. Sylvester
H. O. H.

LEISTON, 2 February 1910.

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Yours faithfully,

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LEISTON, 2 February 1910.

FACTORY & WORKSHOPS ACT

- (A) FACTORIES. 1. Messrs Richard Garrett & Sons Ltd,
 Ironworkers.
- (a) Safety from fire. The means of escape in case of fire are adequate. A steam fire engine manned by the employees is maintained by the Firm.
- (b) Homework: none.
- (c) Closet accommodation has been much improved by the provision of water closets. The accommodation provided is sufficient if the District Inspector of Factories gives a certificate to that effect.
2. Messrs Morling & Co, Printers.
- There is sufficiency of cubic space, and adequate sanitary accommodation.
- (B) DOMESTIC FACTORIES: None.
- (C) WORKSHOPS: 1. Dressmaking workshops. Condition satisfactory and closet accommodation adequate. No Homework.
2. Bakehouses. Conditions satisfactory. No underground bakehouses.
3. Laundries. None.
4. Domestic Workshops. None.
5. Stable Yards. Sanitary accommodation satisfactory.

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DOMESTIC FACTORIES: None.

(B)

WORKSHOPS: 1. Pressmaking workshops. Condition satisfactory and close accommodation adequate. No homework.

(C)

2. Bakinghouses. Conditions satisfactory. No underground bakinghouses.

3. Laundry. None.

4. Domestic Workshops. None.

5. Stable Yards. Sanitary accommodation satisfactory.